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January 19, 2001

**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Express Mail No. EL054550261US

Re: Application of David ALUMOT, Gad NEUMANN, Rivka SHERMAN, and  
Ehud TIROSH  
OPTICAL INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS  
Our Ref: 002187 USA C03/PDC/WF/DB

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Continuation Application of pending prior Application No. 09/298,501 (Confirmation No. 5857) filed April 23, 1999, of David ALUMOT, Gad NEUMANN, Rivka SHERMAN, and Ehud TIROSH entitled OPTICAL INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims, forty-one (41) sheets of informal drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application. A Preliminary Amendment, a Submission of Formal Drawings, and an Information Disclosure Statement are also enclosed.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 2721.

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentences: --This is a continuation of Application No. 09/298,501 (Confirmation No. 5857) filed April 23, 1999, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/984,558 filed December 3, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,982,921, which is a continuation of Application No. 07/790,871 filed November 12, 1991, now U.S. Patent No. 5,699,447. The disclosures of all of these are incorporated herein by reference.--

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

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The Government filing fee is calculated, **after entry of the Preliminary Amendment**, as follows:

Total claims	<u>10</u>	-	20	=	<u>0</u>	x	\$18	=	\$	0.00
Independent claims	<u>1</u>	-	3	=	<u>0</u>	x	\$80	=	\$	0.00
Base Fee										<u>\$ 710.00</u>

TOTAL FILING FEE

\$ 710.00

Please charge the statutory fee of \$710.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC  
Attorneys for Applicant

By: Frank L. Bernstein  
Frank L. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 31,484

09765995-011904

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

David ALUMOT, Gad NEUMANN, Rivka SHERMAN, and Ehud TIROSH

Rule 53(b) Continuation of  
Appl. No. 09/298,501

Filed: January 19, 2001

For: OPTICAL INSPECTION APPARATUS FOR DEFECT DETECTION (as amended)

**"EXPRESS MAIL" CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments hereto are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Express Mail Certificate Number: EL054550261US

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Date: January 19, 2001

Signed:

Thea K. Wagner  
Thea K. Wagner

Enclosures:

1. PTO Transmittal Letter (original and 1 copy) ;
2. Application, including the specification (43 pages), claims 1-95 (pages 44-58), and the Abstract (page 59);
3. Informal Drawings (41 sheets; Figs. 1-49);
4. Preliminary Amendment;
5. Information Disclosure Statement w/Form PTO 1449;
6. Submission of Formal Drawings with 40 sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-49).